



**Royal Penguin** (*Eudyptes schlegeli*)

**Size:** Head and body length, 65 - 75 cm **Weight:** 4.4 - 6.1 kg during breeding season **Habitat:** Endemic to its breeding islands: Macquarie Island and Clerk and Bishop Islets in Australia **Surviving number:** Estimated at 1,700,000 individuals



Photographed by Sue Flood

# WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

Teamwork works. By dividing responsibilities, male and female royal penguins give their young the best start in life. The female takes the first two-week shift incubating her egg, then it's the male's turn. After the egg hatches, the male assumes guard duty while the female forages for food to bring back to their hungry chick. At about 20 days, the chick joins a crèche, freeing both parents to bring meals home. However, the food

sources on which the penguins depend are becoming uncertain due to the effects of climate change. And squeezed into small breeding islands, these team players are vulnerable to disease and disaster.

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